

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6781

BILL NUMBER: SB 216

NOTE PREPARED: Apr 28, 2003

BILL AMENDED: Apr 26, 2003

SUBJECT: Statewide Mutual Aid Program.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Wyss

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Reske

BILL STATUS: Enrolled

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows Public Safety Training Board members to appoint designees to represent them at board proceedings. It makes changes to permit the differentiation of intermediate and basic advanced levels of emergency medical technician certification in addition to the levels currently in use. It establishes a detailed disciplinary process for offenses committed by certified individuals. The bill also creates the Emergency Medical Services Fund.

This bill provides for the regulation of emergency medical dispatch agencies and personnel. It provides for a Statewide Mutual Aid Program that allows a city, town, county, or township to request assistance from another unit in managing disaster response or recovery or conducting disaster response or recovery-related exercises, testing, or training. It provides labor and equipment reimbursement rates. The bill also repeals provisions concerning mutual aid agreements. This bill makes technical changes. It makes the bill effective upon passage. It also declares an emergency for the act.

Effective Date: Upon Passage; July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Disciplinary Process* - This provision establishes a detailed disciplinary process for offenses committed by certified individuals. The State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) expects the new process to decrease costs associated with hearings because they would no longer be required but may be requested upon notice of the Emergency Medical Services Commission imposing disciplinary sanctions.

Certification Fees - The SEMA reports that expenditures related to administering certification fees will be absorbed in the normal operating costs of the Commission and the Agency. Assuming those costs would be

similar to a health or professional licensing board, the SEMA could incur costs for additional supplies. Additional expenses could include printing costs for applications and forms, and postage. The Professional Licensing Agency reports their cost associated with license and renewal forms is approximately \$190 per one thousand forms. Postage costs for the PLA are \$0.25 per license and \$0.34 per renewal.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Certification Fees* - The Commission would be allowed to establish license fees for emergency medical dispatchers and emergency medical dispatcher agencies. There are 1,600 individuals and 180 dispatch centers that would be subject to the emergency medical dispatch certification fees under this provision. The fiscal impact is dependent on the fee set by the Commission.

Emergency Medical Services Fund - The provision establishes the Emergency Medical Services Fund, which will provide funds for defraying the cost of personal services, other operating, and capital expenses of the Commission and the State Emergency Management Agency. The SEMA is to administer the Fund, and expenses of doing so are to be paid from the Fund. To the extent that the Emergency Medical Services Commission currently receives state General Fund dollars, expenditures of the state General Fund could be reduced.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Statewide Mutual Aid Program* - This provision makes it so that a county, municipality, or township will not be required to have an agreement with another unit in order to request and receive assistance from the unit in response to an emergency or disaster. Units are considered participants in the Statewide Mutual Aid Program unless a unit actively opts out of the program.

A participating unit that is requested to render assistance must do so when either a local disaster emergency is declared or upon commencement of preparedness exercises, testing, or training. Each unit receiving assistance must reimburse expenses unless the unit rendering the assistance assumes the costs, loans the equipment, or donates the services used.

The fiscal impact of this provision is dependent on local action.

Reimbursement Rates - This provision requires participating units to reimburse other units for use of their labor and equipment, unless provided by a specific agreement. The reimbursement for straight-time costs is the normal pay rate, and for overtime costs is 150% of the normal pay rate. This provision will allow departments to recoup their expenses related to providing services through the Statewide Mutual Aid Program.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Emergency Management Agency; Emergency Medical Services Commission.

Local Agencies Affected: Counties, Municipalities, and Townships.

Information Sources: Brad Gavin, State Emergency Management Agency, (317) 233-4928; State Personnel Table.

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